

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Attorney Docket No. 825-160

In the specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/CH00/00399, filed July 20, 2000, which international application was published on February 1, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/07334 A1 in the German language. The International Application claims priority of Swiss Patent Application 1338/99, filed July 22, 1999 and Swiss Patent Application 2363/99 filed December 23, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, line 5, delete the phrase "according to the preamble of claim 1."

Before the paragraph beginning at line 19 of page 2, insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Paragraph beginning at line 23 on page 2 has been amended as follows:

*already in spec -* This object is solved by means of a screw cap having the features ~~of claim 1~~ as described in the claims. Further advantageous configurations of the invention are defined in the depending claims.

Before the paragraph beginning at line 15 of page 3 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Before the paragraph beginning at line 7 of page 4 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

**In the amended claims:**

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. A screw cap according to ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the sealing lip (19) protrudes beyond a peak of the spacer (31) at a height ( $h_2$ ) axially downwards to a height ( $h_1$ ).

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. A screw cap according to ~~any one of Claims 1 through 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that radially inside of the first spacer (31), a second spacer (35) is formed on the cap bottom.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. A screw cap according to ~~any one of Claims 1 through 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the cap bottom (3) defines a circular groove (36) radially inside the spacer (31) thus reducing the thickness of the cap bottom (3).

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

8. A screw cap according to ~~any one of Claims 1 through 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the closure membrane (37) has a greater thickness ( $d_1$ ) at least in a zone wherein it is contacted by the bottle neck than the thickness ( $d_2$ ) in a central zone thereof.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. A screw cap according to ~~any one of Claims 1 through 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that the sealing lip (19) is divided into several segments (19').